

<i>my</i> Lord's physician variable and dis- tracted in herself	Her Majesty is now
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22nd August A GREAT DISASTER IN IRELAND
 The fort at BlacLwater being reduced to great straits, n
 was resolved by Sir Henry Bagnal, the Marshal, to relieve it, alleging how greatly this service concerned her Majesty j,
 honour On the 14.th August therefore the army, being bj-
 computation 3,500 foot and 300 horse, marched out of Armagh,
 leaving there all the victuals and some munition Their form
 was in six regiments, marching severally at six or seven score
 paces between each regiment, the way being hard and tie
 ground hilly, within calrver shot of wood and bog on both side*
 which was wholly possessed by the enemy, who played on them
 continually.
 After marching thus for a mile, they approached a trench
 which the enemy had cast in front of their passage, a mile long,
 five foot deep, and four foot over, with a thorny hedge on the
 top, and in the middle of a bog Over this ditch the vanguard
 passed, but the main battle stood for bringing up the saker,
 winch stuck fast in a ford, and also for the rear which being hard
 set, had retired to Armagh In the meantime the vanguard
 having passed were so distressed that they fell to run and -were
 all in effect put to the sword The Marshal, being chief
 commander, then came up to relieve them, but was shot dead
 in the head by a bullet, notwithstanding two other regiments
 passed over the trench But as the battle came up two barrels
 of powder took fire amongst them, by which the men were
 disranked and routed, and in this confusion the mo regiments
 that had passed the trench were for the most

part put to the
sword Hereupon Sir Thomas Maria
Wingfield, being now
chief commander, commanded the retreat to
Armagh, the
battle being all in rout, but, with great
resolution of the
vanguard of horse, and the enemy's munition
being well spent,
recovered Armagh Here the captains resolved
to refresh their
men with victuals and munition, and so to march
directly to
Newry But in the meantime the enemy
approached and fell
round them on all sides with their force Then
the captains,
finding the insufficiency both in mind and means
of their men,